A DECLARATION FROM His Majestie the KING OF SCOTS;

VVherein is declared how the *Army* shall be fully satisfied all their Arrears, with a large Overplus.

TOGETHER

VVith an Assurance of Indempnity to all that have been engaged, and active in any the late Wars. That all Armies shall be disbanded, and His Government always regulated by a Free and Full Parliament, triennially called; And the People secured of their Liberties, and eased of their Illegal Burthens and Taxes.

ALSO

A *Letter* to the Right Honourable

The Lord LAMBERT

From a Lover of Peace and Truth.

Being a most faithful Advice how to chuse the safest way to the happy ending of all our Distractions.

LONDON, Printed in the Year 1659.

DA912
.A1
no.473
Rare Book
Room

CHARLS R. 1682[8]4

WE having lately received an Overture from some persons in *England*, with a seeming pretence of a Peace and Reconcilement betwixt Us and our Subjects of *England*, and although they acknowledge themselves few in number, and not so well resolved as to trust us with their Names, yet undertake on the behalf of many thousands, to make good their propositions to us, conditionally, that we grant and assure unto them, their (as they call them, reasonable and modest) requests; whether these mens Intentions are just and upright, as they pretend, or whether with *Joab's* salutation to *Abner*, they would entrap us to our destruction; or with *Shimei*, come the first of all the House of *Joseph* to meet us, not being able to support themselves in their decaying condition, we shall not be much desirous to enquire after: Only from hence we take occasion to let those persons, and all the world know, that we are ready to grant to all our Subjects (some very few excepted) more than they can have the confidence to expect from us: Yet let not any rash judgement condemn us for our large Offers, as being in so low, and forlorn a Condition, as never any Christian Prince for many Ages hath been; That we are forward in promises, though intend little or no performance: We say, were our calamity more heavy upon us (which can hardly be) we shall not be drawn by the greatest allurements and advantages to pass our engagement for any thing we are not fully resolved to perform, which being chiefly for the general good & peace of all our Subsects, we cannot but hope for a happy success to ensue, and therefore to declare that (if peaceably receiv'd) we shall forthwith grant,

1. A general and free pardon to all (seven of those onely excepted, which were the bloody Judges and Murderers of the King our Father.)

2. That all the Armies shall be within six months disbanded, if moneys for their satisfaction can in a Parliamentary way be so soon raised, and that they shall have all Arrears fully payed them, and three months pay over and above to every common Souldier, for their better removal and settlement, in their former or better way and place of living.

3. That the Armies being so satisfied and disbanded, no Souldier shall be continued, but in the antient Garrisons, accustomed on the Sea Coasts, and that no new Army shall be raised, or any

Fleet by us ſet forth to Sea, upon any occaſion whatſoever, but by conſent of Parliament.

4. That not any of Our Subjects ſhall be burdened with Taxes, Exciſe, Free-quartering, or other illegal payments or preſſures, or any Oaths impoſed, nor any debarred of their Liberties, queſtioned for their Lives or Eſtates, for any cauſe or pretence whatſoever, but by the antient and known Laws of the Land, according to *Magna Charta*, and the *Petition of Right*.

5. That the Purchaſers of Crown-Lands and Rents being ſatisfied their purchaſe-mony and intereſts by the profits thereof, & further payment to their full Reimburſement, The ſaid Lands & Rents may return to the Crown again, we being reſolved in the mean time to caſt our Self on the love of our Subjects for our future ſupport: And if the Parliament (that ſhall next be call'd) ſhall not think fit to give us a reparation, & ſuch a competent revenue as we might expect, we have learned, and ſhall ſubmit (if there be occaſion) to the condition of the meaneſt of our Predeceſſors.

6. That the Purchaſers of Biſhops and Deans and Chapters Lands and Rents, being in like ſort ſatisfied, their purchaſe-mony and intereſt by the profits & further payment, till they be reimburſed, that then the ſaid Lands and Rents ſhall be conferred on the Clergy and Miniſtry, as the next Parliament ſhall ordain.

7. That as ſoon as Writs can be iſſued, a free and legal Parliament ſhall be ſummoned, and the privileges thereof maintained, without any exemption to any perſon whatſoever, being legally choſen and returned, according to the antient Laws and Cuſtoms of *Englund* in that caſe provided.

8. That the Parliament ſhall be deſired by us (and with whom we ſhall concur) to take care for the ſetling of the Proteſtant Religion, and the publick worſhip of God (with liberty for tender Conſciences) and for the providing for the Miniſtry in the firſt place, as being the moſt weighty affair, and ought to be preferred before any other Concernment whatſoever, without which no bleſſing from above can be expected upon our Government.

9. That if the Parliement ſhall paſs an Act of general Pardon, (and if they ſhall deſire thoſe ſeven perſons by us intended to be executed, ſhall be included, and giving us ſatisfactory reaſons for the ſame) we ſhall concur with them therein.

10. That the affairs of the Land and our Government ſhall be conſtantly regulated and managed by Parliaments, and that the Act for Triennial Parliaments ſhall be by us duly obſerved.

VVe

We acknowledge it is very difficult, if not impossible, to please all, especially where there are so many divisions, and every man almost of a several mind and opinion: But as we have proposed to our Self, so shall we endeavour to give all reasonable Satisfaction to all our Subjects. And if the Actings of the Representatives in a Free Parliament of their own choice can satisfie them, we shall not be wanting in summoning and concurring with them: But if that will not please them, nothing will.

Now, if these condescentions of ours shall have so much freedom of passage in *England*, as many a scurrilous and lying Pamphlet fly abroad without our controul, we are confident that all of understanding, who are not wilfully blinded, or not over-swayed with present self-interest, thereby knowing our large Offers, must needs be fully convinced of the amplitude thereof, extending to all their grievances.

However, if it shall be instanced wherein we are too short, (for we are ready, for the Good, and Peace of the Nation, to give large satisfaction, and ample assurance to our most inveterate Enemies;) We having yeelded to all matters of most importance, shall not stick at lesser things.

And if any who have been adherers and assisting to our late royal Father and us, shall think we are herein too free and indulgent to such, and so many open and professed Enemies; and that we have made no provision for our Servants, and Friends; we desire them all to consider our own, and also their Conditions, and how things now stand in *England*; that neither we, nor themselvs, can otherwise (in any probability) better our selvs, unless by a bloody and hazzardous War; which though we cannot doubt of the lawfullness on our part, and consequently a prosperous successe, if we shall be necessitated thereto for the recovery of our just right; yet we are assured, that the God of peace will rather prosper a peaceable than violent and forceable entrance: And therefore we hope all those our friends, and loving Subjects, will rest fully satisfied with what we shall do pursuant to these propositions, we being desirous hereafter to consider their sufferings (though not comparable to ours) as God shall enable, and in all just and lawfull ways.

And now we wish, that all the people of *England* would remember how they have performed their Protestations, Oaths, Vows, Solemn League and Covenant: But to instance in no

more

more than the Honour and Priviledges of Parliament, the foundation of all their laws, which they have so often sworn and vowed to maintain with their lives and fortunes; what face of a Parliament they have now left, which should consist of three Estates, King, House of Peers, and House of Commons: The two first wholly destroyed; And what of the last is in being (not to mention at least 150 who at the beginning of the Wars left them and went to *Oxford*,) when a considerable number of their own party protested against their proceedings, and deserted the House; How many imprisoned, and what great numbers by force expulsed by that late bloody & hypocritical Usurper, which actions of his (though they were a main step to his intended Throne and Tyrannical Goverment,) yet are so well relished, by that Tail of a Parliament remaining, that they are resolved neither to readmit the persons so illegally and injuriously expelled, nor to fill up the void places of any removed or dead: so that in a few years, what by death and new expulsion, they may reduce themselvs to the number of those infamous Tyrants of *Athens*, and if they can establish themselvs by their designed *Militia*, and that they may thereby be able to command their now masters, the Sword-men, and Cashire them, they will modell such a new Army as shall be in subjection to them, and then Vote themselvs, their Sons, and Nephews, a Parliament for ever.

Let those who have generous *English* Spirits seriously consider into what a Labyrinth of woe and misery they have run themselvs and now lye under; what a confusion there is in Church and State; that what hath been gotten by blood and rapine, must be so upheld; The Government these Usurpers would settle, not being to be maintained, but by continual Armies & Navies, and the support of these must be Taxes, Excise, Free-quarterings, and chargeable *Militia*'s, and other unsupportable burdens to perpetuity.

Now let the whole Nation beg and implore a blessing from the Father of Mercies, and let them all be of one heart and one mind, to free themselvs of these Iron yokes and heavy pressures, and joyn and concurr with us, in establishing a peaceable Government, to the great joy and happiness of the honest and true-hearted, and to the advancement of the true Protestant Religion and Gods glory. And let them all unanimously with one Voyce say, *Amen*.

A true Copy taken from the Original.

A *Letter* to the Right Honorable The Lord *LAMBERT*.

SIR,

LEt it not be a Trouble to you to read a few Lines from one unknown, but a much honourer of your Noble Spirit, and therefore desirous to cast in this dram of Advice among those many & weighty Debates now before you.

If I should tell you of divers that had a power or capacity to contribute to, or restore Peace to these Nations, and have neglected the oportunities which they have since repented of, I am confident you would, even your self, point out the men; namely, *Essex*, *Fairfax*, *Waller*, *Massey*, *Brown*, *Rich*, *Cromwell*, and others.

Sir, We look upon you at this instant as having the whole strength of the Nation in your hands; but if you expect to hold it long, you will be miserably deceived: Therefore I beseech you make good use of this happy opportunity, and consider how great you may make your self, and how glorious you will be to posterity, if you be a means of laying the Government on the shoulders of Him that ought to bear it, which will in an instant restore a happy Peace and Settlement to this distracted Nation: Certainly the greatest honour, and a better estate than any *English* Subject enjoyes shall be your reward. But if you doubt how the Souldier, and Persons deeply con-

concerned, that shall concur with you shall be secured and satisfied; See this Declaration, that to my knowledge hath been near three months in this Town, and perhaps not yet come to your view. Consider of it, and see, if all your own seekings, both from Our Hand, and Mother in particulars be not here answered. Lay your Hand on your Heart, for are you not thereby convinced? or would you know under what Government the people would rest most satisfied, either a Single Person, Council of State, Parliament or Army? Appoint such a way as every man may without fear or danger give in his vote undiscovered. To begin only with this Town; Let the Clerk of every Company, or Constable of every Ward take a Ticket in Paper from every man, and put it into a Box locked and sealed, and you will find Nine parts of Ten encline to that Constitution we have lived under above these five hundred years: But if not, you will however by this course give great satisfaction to the People, in letting them have each an opportunity of declaring their minds, and thereby you will be rightly informed of their affections; which being weighed in the ballance of your judgement, you may with confidence and assurance steer on a straight course to the Haven of Happiness and Safety.

My Lord, I conceive I have done my duty in declaring my mind, and have no more to say, but that you do as God shall put in your Heart, and then go on and prosper.

Octob. 14. 1659. *Your Lordships most humble and faithful Servant,*

S. L.

A LETTER

To the Right Honorable

The LORD *LAMBERT*,

From a Lover of Peace and Truth.

Being a moſt faithful Advice how to chuſe the ſafeſt way to the happy Ending of all our Diſtractions.

Alſo,

A DECLARATION

FROM

The KING of *SCOTS*,

How the *Army* ſhall be fully ſatisfied all their Arrears, with a large Overplus.

TOGETHER WITH

An Aſſurance and Indempnity to all that have been engaged and active in any the late Wars.

That all Armies ſhall be disbanded, and his Goverment alwayes regulated by a free and full Parliament, triennially to be called: And,

The People ſecured of their Liberties, and eaſed of all Illegal Burthens and Taxes.

Printed in the Year, 1659.

A Letter to the right honorable The Lord *LAMBERT*.

SIR,

LEt it not be a trouble to you to read a few Lines from one unknown, but a much honorer of your Noble Spirit, and therefore desirous to cast in his dram of Advice among those many and weighty Debates now before you.

If I should tell you of divers that had a power or capacity to contribute to, or restore Peace to these Nations, and have neglected the Opportunities, which they have since repented of, I am confident you would, even your self, point out the men; namely, *Essex*, *Fairfax*, *Waller*, *Massey*, *Browne*, *Rich*, *Cromwell*, and others.

Sir, We look upon you at this instant as having the whole strength of the Nation in your hands, but if you expect to hold it long, you will be miserably deceived: Therefore I beseech you make good use of this happy opportunity, and consider how great you may make your self, and how glorious you will be to posterity, if you be a means of laying the Government on the shoulders of Him that ought to bear it, which will in an instant restore a happy Peace and Settlement to this distracted Nation: Certainly, the greatest honour, and a better estate than any *English* Subject enjoys shall be your reward. But if you doubt how the Souldier and Persons deeply concerned, that shall concur with

you ſhall be ſecured and ſatisfied; See this Declaration, that to my knowledge hath been neer Three Moneths in this Town, and perhaps not yet come to your view. Are you not thereby convinced, or would you know under what Government the People would reſt moſt ſatisfied, either a Single Perſon, Council of State, Parliament, or Army? Appoint ſuch a way as every man may without fear or danger give in his vote undiſcovered: To begin only with this Town; Let the Clerk of every Company, or Conſtable of every Ward, take a Ticket in Paper from every man, and put it into a Box locked and ſealed, and you will find Nine parts of Ten encline to that Conſtitution we have lived under above theſe five hundred years: But if not, you will however by this courſe give great ſatisfaction to the People, in letting them have each an opportunity of declaring their minds, and thereby you will be rightly informed of their affections; which being weighed in the ballance of your judgement, you may with confidence and aſſurance ſteer on a ſtraight courſe to the Haven of Happineſs and Safety.

My Lord, I conceive I have done my duty in declaring my mind, and have no more to ſay, but that you do as God ſhall put in your heart, and then go and proſper.

Octob. 14. 1659.

Your Lordſhips moſt humble and faithful Servant

S. L.

CHARLES R.

WE having lately received an Overture from ſome perſons in *England*, with a ſeeming pretence of a Peace and Reconcilement betwixt Us and our Subjects of *England*, and although they acknowledge themſelves few in number, and not ſo well reſolved as to truſt us with their Names, yet undertake on the behalf of many thouſands, to make good their propoſitions to us, conditionally, that we grant and aſſure unto them, their (as they call them, reaſonable and modeſt) requeſts; whether theſe mens Intentions are juſt and upright, as they pretend, or whether with *Joab*'s Salutation to *Abner*, they would entrap us to our deſtruction; or with *Shimei*, come the firſt of all the Houſe of *Joſeph* to meet us, not being able to ſupport themſelves in their decaying Condition, we ſhall not be much deſirous to enquire after: Only from hence we take occaſion to let thoſe perſons, and all the world know, that we are ready to grant to all our Subjects (ſome very few excepted) more then they can have the confidence to expect from us: Yet let not any raſh Judgement condemn us for our large Offers, as being in ſo low, and forlorn a Condition, as never any Chriſtian Prince for many Ages hath been; That we are forward in promiſes, though intend little or no performance: We ſay, were our calamity more heavy upon us, (which can hardly be) we ſhall not be drawn by the greateſt allurements and advantages to paſſe our engagement for any thing we are not fully reſolved to perform, which being chiefly for the general good and peace of all our Subjects, we cannot but hope for a happy Succeſſe to enſue, and therefore do declare that (if peaceably receiv'd) we ſhall forthwith grant,

1. A general and free pardon to all (ſeven of thoſe only excepted, which were the bloody Judges and Murderers of the King our Father.

2. That all the Armies ſhall be within ſix months disbanded, if Moneys for their ſatisfaction can in a Parliamentary way be ſo ſoon raiſed, and that they ſhall have all Arrears fully payed them, and three months pay over and above to every common Soldier, for their better removal and ſettlement, in their former or better way and place of living.

3. That the Armies being ſo ſatisfied and disbanded, no Soldier ſhall be continued, but in the ancient Garriſons, accuſtomed on the Sea Coaſts, and that no new Army ſhall be raiſed, or any

Fleet

Fleet by us ſet forth to Sea, upon any occaſion whatſoever, but by conſent of Parliament.

4. That not any of our Subjects ſhall be burdened with Taxes, Exciſe, Free-quarterings, or other illegal payments or preſſures, or any Oaths impoſed, nor any debarred of their Liberties, queſtioned for their Lives or Eſtates, for any cauſe or pretence whatſoever, but by the ancient and known Laws of the Land, according to *Magna Charta*, and the Petition of Right.

5. That the Purchaſers of Crown Lands and Rents being ſatisfied their purchaſe mony and Intereſts by the Profits theteof, and further payment to their full Reimburſement: The ſaid Lands and Rents may return to the Crown again; we being reſolved in the mean time to caſt our Self on the Love of our Subjects for our future ſupport: And if the Parliament (that ſhal next be called) ſhal not think fit to give us a reparation, & ſuch a competent revenue as we might expect, we have learned, and ſhal ſubmit (if there be occaſion) to the Condition of the meaneſt of our Predeceſſors.

6. That the purchaſers of Biſhops, and Deans and Chapters Lands, and Rents, being in like ſort ſatisfied their purchaſe mony and Intereſt by the profits and further payment, till they be reimburſed, that then the ſaid Lands and Rents ſhall be conferred on the Clergy and Miniſtery, as the next Parliament ſhall ordain.

7. That as ſoon as Writs can be iſſued, a free and legal Parliament ſhall be ſummoned, and the Privileges thereof maintained, without any exemption to any perſon whatſoever, being legally choſen and returned, according to the ancient Laws and Cuſtomes of *England* in that caſe provided.

8. That the Parliament ſhall be deſired by us (and with whom we ſhal concur, to take care for the ſetling of the Proteſtant Religion, and the publick worſhip of God (with liberty for tender Conſciences,) and for the providing for the Miniſtry in the firſt place, as being the moſt weighty affair, and ought to be preferred before any other Concernment whatſoever, without which no bleſſing from above can be expected upon our Government.

9. That if the Parliament ſhall paſſe an Act of general pardon, (and if they ſhall deſire thoſe ſeven perſons by us intended to be executed, ſhall be included, and giving us ſatisfactory reaſons for the ſame) we ſhall concur with them therein.

10. That the Affairs of the Land and our Government, ſhall be conſtantly regulated and managed by Parliaments, and that the Act for Triennial Parliaments ſhall be by us duly obſerved.

We

We acknowledge it is very difficult, if not impoſſible to pleaſe all, eſpecially where there are ſo many diviſions, and every man almoſt of a ſeveral mind and opinion: But as we have propoſed to our Self, ſo ſhall we endevour to give all reaſonable Satisfaction to all our Subjects. And if the Actings of the Repreſentatives in a Free Parliament of their own choice can ſatisfie them, we ſhall not be wanting in ſummoning and concurring with them: But if that will not pleaſe them, nothing will.

Now, if theſe condeſcentions of ours ſhall have ſo much freedome of paſſage in *England*, as many a ſcurrilous and lying Pamphlet flye abroad without our control, we are confident that all of underſtanding, that are not wilfully blinded, or not over-ſwayed with preſent ſelf-intereſt, thereby knowing our large Offers, muſt needs be fully convinced of the amplitude thereof, extending to all their grievances.

However, if it ſhall be inſtanced wherein we are two ſhort, (for we are ready for the Good, and Peace of the Nation, to give large ſatisfaction, and ample aſſurance to our moſt inveterate Enemies;) We having yielded to all matters of moſt importance, ſhall not ſtick at leſſer things.

And if any that have been adherers and aſſiſting to our late royal Father and us, ſhall think we are herein to free and indulgent to ſuch, and ſo many open and profeſſed Enemies; and that we have made no proviſion for our Servants, and Friends; we deſire them all to conſider our own, and alſo their Conditions, and how things now ſtand in *England*; That neither we, nor themſelves, can otherwiſe (in any probability) better our ſelves, unleſs by a bloody and hazzardous War; which though we cannot doubt of the lawfulneſs on our part, and conſequently a proſperous ſucceſs, if we ſhall be neceſſitated thereto for the recovery of our juſt right; yet we are aſſured that the God of peace will rather proſper a peaceable then violent and forceable entrance: And therefore we hope all thoſe our friends, and loving Subjects, will reſt fully ſatisfied with what we ſhall do purſuant to theſe propoſitions, we being deſirous hereafter to conſider their ſufferings (though not comparable to ours) as God ſhall enable, and in all juſt and lawful ways.

And now we wiſh that all the people of *England* would remember how they have performed their Proteſtations, Oaths, Vows, Solemn League and Covenant: But to inſtance in no more

more then the Honour and Priviledges of Parliament, the foundation of all their laws, which they have so often sworn and vowed to maintain with their lives and fortunes: What face of a Parliament they have now left, which should consist of three Estates, King, House of Peers, and House of Commons: The two first wholly destroyed: And what of the last is in being (not to mention at least 150 that at the beginning of the Wars left them and went to *Oxford*) when a considerable number of their own party protested against their proceedings and deserted the House: How many imprisoned, and what great numbers by force expulsed by that late bloody & hypocritical Usurper, which actions of his (though they were a main step to his intended Throne and Tyrannical Government) yet are so well relished; by that Tail of a Parliament remaining, that they are resolved neither to readmit the persons so illegally and injuriously expelled, nor to fill the up the void places of any removed or dead; so that in a few years, what by death, and new expulsions, they may reduce themselves to the number of those infamous Tyrants of *Athens*, and if they can establish themselves by their designed *Militia*, and that they may thereby be able to command their now Masters, the Sword-men, and Cashire them, they will moddle such a new Army as shall be in subjection to them, and then Vote Themselves, their Sons, and Nephews, a Parliament for ever.

Let those that have generous *English* Spirits seriously consider into what a Labyrinth of woe and misery they have run themselves and now lye under; what a confusion there is in Church and State; that what hath been gotten by blood and rapine, must be so upheld. The Government these Usurpers would settle, not being to be maintained, but by continual Armies and Navies, and the support of those must be Taxes, Excise, Free-quarterings, and chargeable *Militia's*, and other unsupportable burdens to perpetuity.

Now let the whole Nation beg and implore a blessing from the Father of Mercies, and let them all be of one heart and one mind, to free themselves of these Iron yokes and heavy pressures, and joyn and concur with us, in establishing a peaceable Government, to the great joy and happinesse of the honest and true-hearted, and to the advancement of the true Protestant Religion and Gods glory. And let them all unanimously with one Voyce say, *Amen*.

A true Copy taken from the Original.

M. 165

FINIS.